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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 05NEWDELHI5216, BJP MISCALCULATES AGAIN: EFFORTS TO CAPITALIZE ON

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### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags `#cablegate` and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. `#05NEWDELHI5216`.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">05NEWDELHI5216</a>	2005-07-07 11:16 2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy New Delhi	

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/article1585609.ece>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 NEW DELHI 005216

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/07/2015

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [KISL](#) [IN](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: BJP MISCALCULATES AGAIN: EFFORTS TO CAPITALIZE ON  
AYODHYA FIZZLE

REF: NEW DELHI 5165

Classified By: PolCouns Geoffrey Pyatt, for Reasons 1.4 (B, D)

¶1. (C) Summary: BJP attempts to capitalize on the July 5 Ayodhya terrorist attack have largely fallen flat, and opposition calls for the resig

The BJP Acts Fast

¶2. (C) Following an early morning terror strike on the Ayodhya site, the BJP leadership emerged from its July 5 New Delhi meeting energized ar  
--end the ongoing conflict between Party President LK Advani and the RSS (over the latter's remarks about Mohammed Ali Jinnah),  
--revive the sagging morale of the party cadre,  
--turn around the party's flagging electoral fortunes, especially in the Hindi belt and Uttar Pradesh (UP).

¶3. (U) Opposition leaders pointed out that for the first time in months the Sangh Parivar (family of Hindu organizations) had buried its diffe

The BJP Action Plan

¶4. (U) While the Prime Minister was urging the nation to remain calm and await the results of the ongoing investigation into the attack before

¶5. (U) To protest the attack the BJP:

--demanded the resignation of Home Minister Shivraj Patil and UP Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav,  
--scheduled nationwide protest marches in major Indian cities,  
--called a general strike (bandh) in UP, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Orissa,  
--announced that former Chief Ministers Rajnath Singh and Kalyan Singh and BJP leader Murli Manohar Joshi would go to Ayodhya.  
Press reports also indicate that in Jharkhand and UP BJP demonstrators publicly blamed Pakistan for the attack and burned the Pakistani flag.

The RSS Claims Vindication

¶6. (U) The RSS leadership coincidentally was meeting in Surat on July 5. The RSS leaders claimed that the Ayodhya attack would unify the BJP &  
Tear Gas in New Delhi

¶7. (U) The BJP's July 6 rally in New Delhi turned violent, as demonstrators ""courting arrest"" clashed with police, leading authorities to us  
The Agitation Flops

¶8. (U) The BJP call for nationwide protests on July 6 was largely unobserved outside of BJP controlled states. Although VHP and RSS cadre atte  
The NDA Opt Out

¶9. (U) The BJP's allies in the NDA distanced themselves from the agitation, with Janata Dal(U) leader George Fernandes praising the security f  
Advani's Troubles Mount

¶10. (U) Just as Advani was attempting to recast himself as the leader of a renewed Ram temple agitation, his previous actions came back to ha  
Reactions from UP

¶11. (C) Embassy interlocutors in UP generally dismissed the BJP's strike call, agreeing that the attack would not revive the party's flagging

¶12. (C) The "Asian Age" Bureau Chief dismissed the strike call, saying ""the Hindutva plank has lost all relevance." He predicted that atte  
Reactions in Delhi

¶13. (C) SP MP Shahid Siddiqui was quick to take credit for preventing the attack, saying ""my party's government in UP deserves full marks for

¶14. (C) Congress MP Rashid Alvi praised Pakistan for its quick condemnation of the attack, and predicted that the BJP agitation would fail eve

¶15. (C) "Hard News" Editor Sanjay Kapoor predicted that the UPA would emerge stronger after the Ayodhya attack, as it would bring the Left &  
BJP Decline to Continue

¶16. (C) "Hindustan Times" columnist and political insider Pankaj Vohra told Poloff on July 6 that the BJP is in serious trouble and predicte

¶17. (C) Vohra believes that the BJP has no option but to return to Hindutva and face the electoral consequences. The RSS is telling the party

Comment

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¶18. (C) The BJP is increasingly desperate as it enters a period of protracted decline. Seeing the Ayodhya attack as an opportunity, it moved c

¶19. (C) In domestic terms, Congress could be a big winner from the Ayodhya attack. The Prime Minister was quick to reassure the nation, the pa

BLAKE